



Patricia "Pat" Pemberton King

April 23, 1932 - November 18, 2011

Patricia Pemberton King, age 79 of Albia, died Friday, November 18, 2011 at her home in Albia, under the care of Hospice of Monroe County.

Pat was born in Magnolia, Minnesota in 1932 to Richard Kenneth Pemberton and Mabel Rogne Pemberton. She grew up in Des Moines and lived most her life in Albia. She attended Iowa Wesleyan College, where she met her husband-to-be, James Emery King, at the swimming pool. After she taught school for a year they were married, on June 8, 1952 in Des Moines.

Pat is survived by her husband; daughter, Laurie King and son-in-law, Jim Shubin of Novato, CA; and a grandson, Austin Ferguson of San Francisco, CA. Her son, John Kenneth King was killed in a traffic accident in 1996. She is also survived by Alejandro Gonzalez; a Venezuelan exchange student who lived with the Kings and graduated with John. He resides in New Jersey with his wife, Olexis, and children, Vanessa and Diego. They are also considered family.

In Albia, she was a leader in Girl Scouts, Albia Women's Club, and Beta Sigma Phi. In Ottumwa she belonged to Shakespeare Club and the American Association of University Women. She and Jim shared a devotion to the Alliance for the Mentally Ill, since their son John had schizophrenia. They also devoted many hours to MUFON, the Mutual UFO Network, which is the largest organization that investigates Unidentified Flying Objects.

Pat was also active in several organizations of writers-the Iowa Poetry

Association, The National League of American Pen Women, the National Federation of State Poetry Societies, Ottumwa Writers, and Omega Poetry Group. Through contact with these groups, she honed her skills, entered contests and won numerous prizes. Several hundred of her poems and also some fiction and non-fiction stories were published in various periodicals, journals, and newspapers in more than 20 states. In 2008 she published a book of her poems, *Reasons for Hope*. To keep improving her writing, she attended workshops of the Iowa Summer Writing Festival almost every year since its beginning in 1986.

She and Jim took up water skiing and later, windsurfing, and kept at it for many years. In the off-seasons she walked and did other exercises regularly to keep in shape.

Some of Pat's favorite things to do were reading, writing, cooking, and traveling, especially to other countries. Always interested in learning new things, she took several postgraduate courses, read hundreds of books, and studied Spanish. She was an enthusiastic volunteer tutor in adult literacy and in English as a second language.

Elderhostel was one of her favorite ways to travel. Pat and Jim traveled to over 70 countries. She also became an Ambassador, giving presentations to community organizations to promote educational travel through Elderhostel, now known as Exploritas.

She regretted not living long enough to travel everywhere, read all the many books on her bookshelf, become really fluent in Spanish, and cook dinners for more friends.

Funeral services will be 11 a.m., Monday, November 21, 2011 at Tharp-Winfield Funeral Home. Burial will be in Oak View Cemetery in Albia.

Visitation will open at 12 p.m., Sunday, November 20, 2011, with family present from 5-8 p.m.

Memorials may be directed to the Iowa Alliance for the Mentally Ill, Hospice of Monroe County or Albia Public Library.

Tribute Wall



“ Patricia "Pat" Pemberton King

January 30, 2023 at 05:06 AM



“ Patricia "Pat" Pemberton King

January 30, 2023 at 02:53 AM



“ I was sorry to hear of Pat's passing. She was a terrific lady and so very giving. When John and I were accepted to the Cedar River Writers Festival at Wartburg College in the fall of our senior year, Pat was generous enough to drive us, otherwise, I would not have been able to attend. She encouraged me in my writing and I am grateful.

Kathleen Brown Jordan - Saint Louis, MO - friend - November 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Our condolences to the King family in the passing of Pat. She was a very nice lady, and we'll miss seeing and chatting with her at the grocery store and such, as well as at the Writers Group. Pat was so active in so many things, and she will be greatly missed

Bob & Lola Ivins - Albia, IA - Friends - November 22, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ Dear Jim and family,
I am so sorry to hear of Pat's passing. Please accept Patrick and I's sincere sympathy. I have very fond memories of Pat in sorority and as a friend. She was one of the most talented and interesting woman I know. Take special care. I will miss her christmas letters telling of all her interests and your travels. Take special care. Patricia and Patrick Mellerick, 49 Inishmore Park Cobh, County Cork Ireland

Patricia Mellerick - Cobh, Ireland - Sorority Sister - November 22, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ When I first met Pat I was 16 and was a guest at her table for dinner. She changed my life that day with her sense of adventure, her love of meeting new people, exciting new places, cultures and exotic foods. Her love of adventure and discovery of new cuisines changed my life from that day forward, was passed on and is alive today in her grandson, Austin. You'll be missed, Patty, but your legacy will live on forever. Love, Bill & Austin

Bill Ferguson - San Francisco, CA - Former son-in-law - November 21, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ Pat will always be an inspiration to live, to smile, be gracious--and for many, to write. She surrounded herself with what she liked, and always wanted to see what was in the next horizon. She was interesting, and introspective, and interested in others, and always encouraging. I love her for that. From Frank and myself, for Jim and all of her family, our prayers for your sorrow are heard, and in faith we know will be answered. She will live with us in the best of memories. Beth and Frank Hunter

Beth Hunter - Albia, IA - Friend - November 21, 2011 at 12:00 AM

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Beth and Frank Hunter

Beth Hunter - Albia, IA - Friend - November 21, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DN

“ So sorry to see Pat's obituary in our Des Moines Register. My thoughts and sympathy are with Jim and family at this time of sorrow.

Don Kraber, Sr. - Ankeny, IA - friend, long-time neighbor - November 21, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PF

“ *What a talented, resourceful and gentle soul. Our hearts are with the King family and friends, all those who knew and loved Pat.*
- Peg & Dave Gerdes

Peg Gerdes - Fairfax, CA - Friend - November 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ *What a great person she was and what a great life she has had. She was so talented and had a great smile. God bless.*

Dennis Rogne - Cresco, IA - cousin - November 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RG

“ *Patty is the best, nay God Bless her.*

Robert C Rogne - Marietta, GA - November 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ *I feel privileged to have known Pat as a member of Pen Women Group in Iowa City. what a great lady, and wonderful poet. I often take her book of poems from the shelf and read one or two. whichever they happen to be, they always speak to me. Thank you, dear Pat. Rest in peace.*

Madeline Bendorf - Iowa City, Iowa and Estero, FL - November 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ *My thoughts are with you. Pat was so talented and creative. With Deepest Sympathy, Kendra Crall and Family*

Kendra Crall - Norwalk, IA - Friend - November 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM